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Welcome to Exploring Networks of Communities Case Study Sessions

**The Learn Together Collaboratory
Paul Stacey and Andrew Marchand**



We'll start at 17:00 GMT, 10:00 PDT. Meanwhile, post a note in the chat area to let everyone know where you're from!



Supporting a Network of Communities

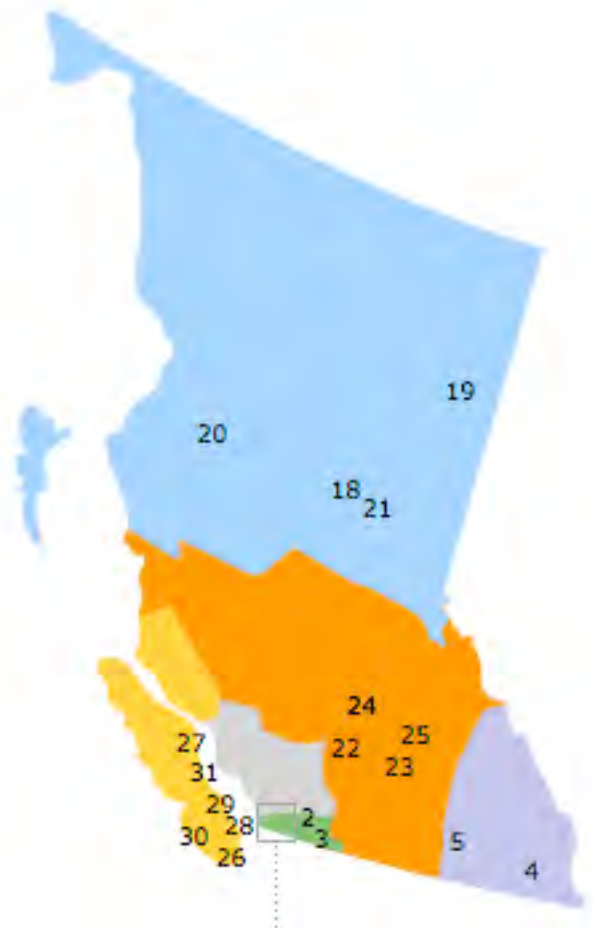
A Learn Together Collaboratory Case Study



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System-wide service provider for BC public post secondary

1. Student Services & Data Exchange
2. Curriculum Development & Delivery
3. ICT Infrastructure & Services
4. Communities & Academic Growth



Communities & Academic Growth

In the beginning ...



The screenshot displays three online community profiles. Each profile includes a logo, a name, a URL with an RSS icon, a status, and a member count.

Community Name	URL	Status	Members
Educational Technology Users Group ...powered by peers	/etug	Administrator (Cancel)	1106
BCcampus eLearning Marketplace and Expo Online Community	/expo	Administrator (Cancel)	1199
Small Cities Online Research Community	/smallcities	Administrator (Cancel)	208

- Educational Technology Users Group (ETUG)
- Spring/Fall annual workshops
- Innovation Awards
- Online Communities
 - Discussion
 - File sharing
 - News
 - ...



Communities & Academic Growth


Community growth ...



Campus Climate Network

Name **Campus Climate Network**
URL  /ccn
Status Administrator ([Cancel](#))
Members 345



Name **BC CAMPUS PROJECT - A community of practice to promote campus mental health**
URL  /mh
Status Administrator ([Cancel](#))
Members 83

SCOPE

An open, online community for people like you.

Jump to...

SCOPE ► [SCOPE: Seminars](#) ► [Forums](#) ► Exploring Networks of Communities: July 6-24, 2009



Post Secondary Pro-D Survey

*“Learning Together - Participate, Collaborate, Innovate,
Showcase and Share Program”*

Report
BCcampus - Educational Technology Professional Development
Secondment

Three themes ...

- Collaboration, communication and consultation
- Recognizing, sharing and learning from existing BC expertise
- Increase desired professional development opportunities for all without duplicating existing efforts



Jan Johnson

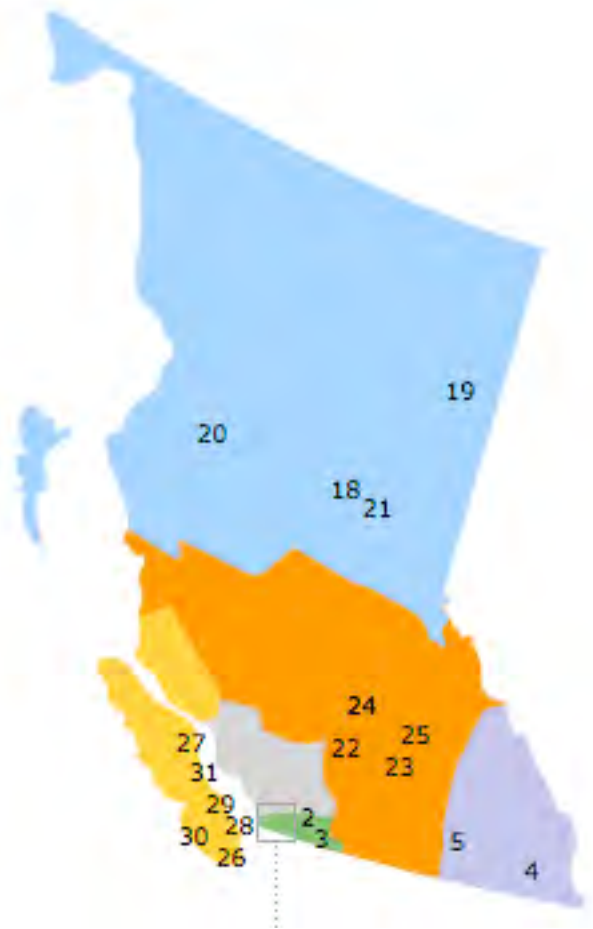
Survey Results

Five major topics (22 recommendations)

- Plan, initiate, manage & promote this program as one collaboratively developed by & for the participants, building on what currently exists, with the support & leadership of BCcampus
- Use Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to Encourage Collaboration and 'Buy-in'
- Collaboratively incorporate existing professional development opportunities & resources, & develop additional ones, based on stakeholder requests and needs
- Establish feedback & quality assurance cycles for all aspects of the program
- Ensure clear, detailed and timely information about existing and future professional development resources & opportunities is provided to all stakeholders across the province

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Curriculum Development & Delivery

BCcampus Online Program Development Fund (OPDF)



- annually since 2003
- 2009 is 7th round
- public post secondary
- inter-institutional partnerships
- 2003-2008 117 grants made
- \$8.25 million to date
- all for development of Open Educational Resources

Specifically targeted professional learning starting with 2007 OPDF

<http://www.bccampus.ca/Assets/2009+-+BCcampus+website+redesign/OPDF-MAP.pdf>

Professional Learning Response

Three Pro-D groups emerged through call for proposals

- University College Institute Professional Developers (UCIPD)
- Northern Educator Developers Network (NEDNet)
- Educational Technology Users Group (ETUG)
- 15 proposals - 2 funded
- host a follow-on session bringing 3 groups together to share current activities, discuss plans, and work toward a single collaborative initiative to be funded using remaining 2007 OPDF funds.



Learn Together

Create shared Learn Together Collaboratory for:

1. Communication and dissemination
2. Shared resources
3. Expertise inventory
4. Learning Paths
5. Research (scholarship)
6. Leadership, Advocacy, & Celebration (showcase)



Networks of Communities

Challenges



- Different technologies - Drupal, Community Zero, Moodle
- Integration, federation & authentication
- Activities & doing - less resource more discourse
- Decision making on when to create a new community
- Open vs. closed spaces (public/private)
- Community mayors & activists
- Metrics of success

1. What it is
2. How it was built
3. Challenges, opportunities and goals

What it is

- The Learn Together Collaboratory is a Web 2 site that was built to support professional development communities in BC higher education.
- <http://www.ltcollaboratory.org>

How it was built

- The site was built using the latest stable version of Drupal (version 6).
- Drupal is a Content Management System that specializes in community sites.
- Drupal is highly configurable and adaptable.*
- <http://www.drupal.org>

Challenges

- Diverse needs of communities
- Constantly changing code (Drupal)
- Developing the right “site recipe” to get buy-in from the most amount of users
- Getting users to be producers of information rather than consumers (posters instead of viewers)

Opportunities

- Lots of interest in and outside of BC
- Because Drupal is supported by a thriving community:
 - Many different ways to improve/enhance the site
 - Lots of support

Goals

- Cater to needs of diverse groups while continuing to share information:
 - <http://www.ucipd.org>, <http://www.vieda.ca>
- Maintain simplicity in design while enhancing functionality (community building/interaction)
- Increase site users and encourage posting



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The discussion continues...

July 6 - 24, 2009

<http://scope.bccampus.ca>